High School Graduations page 2

Union Lettuce Now at Finast page 3

MODERN TIMES

"What you do is news!"

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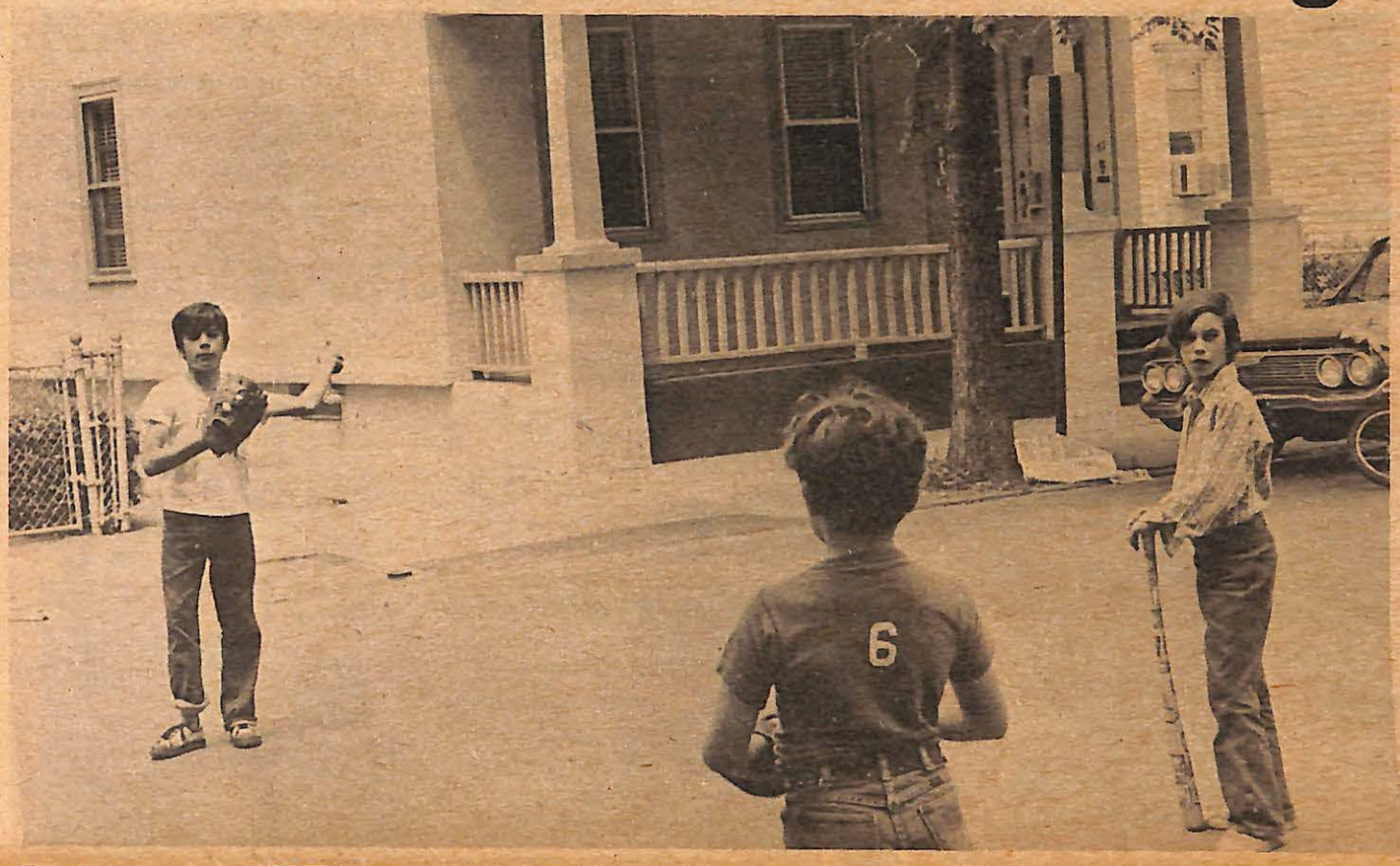
Volume IV, No. 5 New Haven 20¢ July 1–14, 1973

Snow Chicken Roasted page 7

Traffic on William St. Endangers Children



Dave Spinner

Ever dodge trucks on I-91? Well, try playing ball on Williams Street. Both are really dangerous. But the city offers no help for these children. Have a good summer Kids!

by People's Association of William St.

On William Street, playing is more dangerous than fun. Despite many attempts in the past few years, parents have been unable to get a playground for their children.

With backyards paved into parking lots and the nearest playgrounds blocks away across busy streets, the children have nowhere to play but on the street. This would be fine except that they have to compete with drag-racers, and all the drivers who play 'beat the light' by using William and Bradley to avoid the Grand-Olive intersection.

With two minor accidents in the last two weeks serving to underline the dangers, it is all the more apparent how amazingly lucky it is that no one has been seriously hurt.

Empty Promises

During the past several years, many attempts have been made to deal with this problem. Individuals have complained to the city. Mayor Guida came to a block party sponsored by the People's Association of William Street (PAWS) *last election time. But despite campaign promises of more signs and more police patrols, nothing has happened to really change the situation.*

If anything, it has gotten worse as more highways and parking garages have flooded the downtown with excess traffic. People tired of empty promises and a hazardous street, decided to start working together on a regular basis in order to change things for the better.

At the beginning of April, PAWS was revitalized. Regular weekly meetings were set up, the street was canvassed and people were encouraged to come to PAWS meetings. Everyone began sharing the work and the responsibility instead

[see Deadend St., page 6]

Painters Roll The Union On!

by H.J. Tamarin
Modern Times Staff

"We probably have one of the best contract settlements in the state," said Frank Perrelli, union business agent of Local 186 of the Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades speaking of the agreement reached after a five-day strike of area building contractors.

One provision which may be the first of its kind in the country for the Brotherhood of Painters, calls for a three-cents an hour "upgrade program". Under this system the employer provides two cents an hour and the union one cent an hour for each working union member.

The funds will go into a special account which will be used to finance an educational program for union members to learn new skills and keep up with technological advances. Earlier programs were only for the education of apprentices, but this will be open for all union members.

Skills Obsolete

The painters, like members of many unions, have found that the skills used in their trade are becoming obsolete. The advent of new building materials that don't need paint are slowly putting union members out of work. Fortunately, there are other related jobs that are covered by their union for which there is a shortage of skilled labor.

One example is "taping" which is the process of taping together large pieces of sheet rock. Sheet rock has replaced plaster as the major interior building material and now there is a shortage of skilled tapers. There is also a demand for skilled paper hangers, who are familiar with all the new types of wallpaper. These skills will be taught in the new program.

Triple the Work

Perrelli said, "With this program we have the possibility of tripling the amount of work many of our members get. As it is now many guys only get a few months of work a year, but if we can build up our skills we can work all phases of a job."

Other key points of the contract include a $1.05 an hour increase over the next two years. The first increase will bring the hourly wage from $7.15 an hour to $7.70. The work week will be reduced from 40 hours to 36 hours with the addition of a 15 minute daily "clean-up time." The work week reduction begins in May 1974.

DIETARY WORKERS AT YALE NEW HAVEN HOSPITAL VOTE TO AUTHORIZE STRIKE!

see story on page 3

Conditions Worsen at Church St. So.

Dave Spinner

Children play amidst the broken glass and garbage at the housing development at Church Street South. Upkeep of the development is on the decline and living conditions there grow worse. See story on page 6.

School Councils Now Have a Fighting Chance

by Ruth Hein

A Future For School Councils!

(This is the second part of a two part article. The first appeared in the issue of June 15, 1973.)

In the last issue I wrote pessimistically about the New Haven School system's commitment to school-community councils. Specifically, I mentioned its rejection of an offer from the New Haven Foundation of $40,000 to support councils.

It seemed clear that this refusal signified the administration's fear of councils. I wrote another article for this issue reiterating my pessimism—and I've just torn up that story.

This morning I saw Dr. George Harris and learned a few things. By the time this is printed it will be public knowledge that the Board of Education has accepted the Foundation Grant, and that $15,000 of it is to go directly into council projects. Moreover, Dr. Harris (who has always been the staunchest supporter of councils at 200 Orange Street) will act as a consultant to Jack Chasin in working with councils.

A Chance?

Maybe I'm being naive—and I've been fooled before. But right now it really looks as if George Barbarito's administration is willing to give councils a chance. It may be a matter of enlightened self-interest; after all, even the less-than-benign neglect of the last two years has been unable to kill councils. In that time some of them have become strong and vocal.

So far, then, so good. But councils are too important to be left to the administration. For our part—as council members—we have to remember the projected functions of councils and insist on retaining them.

According to the original CDAP (Community Development Action Plan) proposals, councils are to "consult with and advise the principal on all matters of school policy." This is explained to mean that the principal must bring to the council all such matters as budget, curriculum, and discipline.

By the time the school administration issued its draft memo, "all matters" was changed to "most matters." And the final booklet no longer speaks of "advise and consult" at all; it states that "the principal will keep the councils informed on all matters that affect or may affect the school." It stresses the fact that ultimate responsibility rests with the principal.

Thus the original mandate given to councils is reduced, first, by shifting discretion to principals to decide what matters "affect" the school; and, second, by giving all responsibility to principals and reducing councils to rubber-stamp functions.

The previous superintendent's decision that transfers are not subject to community interviews has also undercut councils' right to advise in hiring. In this time of musical chairs, very few new teachers and principals are taken on—so, another function goes by the board.

A Budget for Councils

The CDAP papers proposed "a comparatively small amount of money. . . . to be used for projects and programs of special concern to the school." This provision was unequivocally carried over into the final guidelines and was probably the greatest single spur to councils. We were assured that $3 per pupil had been budgeted and set aside.

As it turned out, however, there was no money. A flat statement, no explanation. It remains to be seen now how the $15,000 (not a lot when spread through 43 schools) will be apportioned.

The Supercouncil

What was needed was a larger organization, speaking for all councils. The CDAP proposals specified an Office of Community Involvement to facilitate "communications among school councils, and between school councils and other school officials." The draft memo instead proposed the schools' Council Planning Committee "as a resource and clearing house for actions taken by the councils." And the final booklet makes no mention at all of a coordinating body.

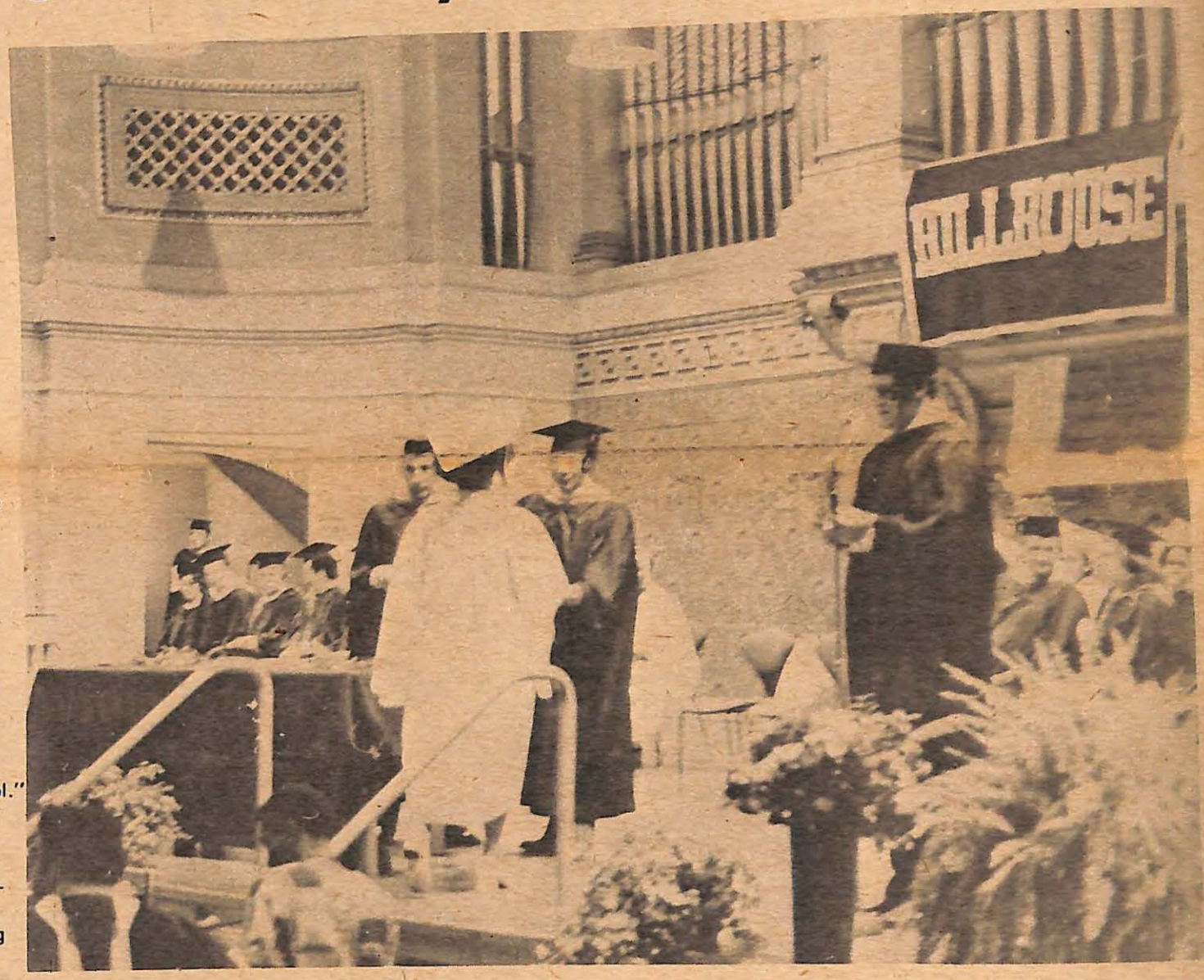
Starting right now, however, there *is* such a supercouncil in CCDQE (Citizen's Committee to Develop Quality Education), which has opened its board to representatives from all existing councils. I feel that CCDQE has probably been the most effective educational change agent in the past. When councils were first set up, its then director, Merle Boissiere, and her staff called on principals, spoke to PTA meetings, ran workshops, offered mimeographing and mailing. Most of the councils could not have been born without the help of CCDQE.

Councils must seize the chance that lies ahead. They must continue winning community support; they must be alert to opportunities to carry out the functions mandated to them; they must get what money is available—and be resourceful about doing without more. And most of all, they must meet together in CCDQE and other organizations, such as the Teachers Center and the new group established by the Federation's Community Affairs Committee.

Councils are an experiment. We can shape them to succeed.

(Note: I'd like to write more about Councils from time to time. Please get in touch with me—c/o **Modern Times** *or 865-1491 with all news of councils.)*

'Grade A' Day For High School Grads



Danny Kahn

Graduation ceremonies for the students of Hillhouse High School were held at Woolsey Hall on June 20th. Things are beginning anew for all the graduating seniors throughout the city.

Community Notes

Public Library Job Information Center

Information on jobs, careers, and training is available at the New Haven Public Library's Job Information Center. Books and pamphlets on choosing a career, applying for a job, and learning skills such as typing or welding are available at the branch libraries.

The Main Library also has job listings, including the Connecticut State Employment Service Job Bank Book, updated daily. Visit the Job Information Center at your New Haven Public Library for information on your career and job needs.

University of New Haven Receives Grant for Summer Engineering Program

The University of New Haven Engineering School, funded in part by a $6000 grant from The New Haven Foundation, is offering a special summer program geared toward minority high school graduates interested in full-time engineering studies.

The ten-week program, which begins July 9, will be a combination of academic preparation (primarily mathematics), motivation techniques to arouse the student's interest in a professional career, and training in study habits. Upon completion of the program, students will be assisted in gaining college admission in either a two-year technology or four-year professional program.

Government Chokes On Prices

On March 7, the Department of Agriculture announced that it was no longer purchasing canned luncheon meat for a relief program involving approximately 2.6 million people, because prices were too high.

A spokesman for the Department said officials would make an effort to maintain the nutritional adequacy of the agency's commodity donation packages by substituting other forms of protein; however, the decision as to what the substitutions would be has not been made.

Though most needy people receiving Government food aid get food stamps, which can be used as cash, 2.6 million persons still participate in this older relief program. Under the older relief program needy families get packages of food commodities taken from Government surplus stocks or purchased on the open market.

Labor Notes

Connecticut Union of Telephone Workers Adopts Bargaining Goals

The Alliance of Independent Telephone Unions at a conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey, June 13 through June 16 adopted bargaining goals for the 1974 Bell System negotiations. The Connecticut Union of Telephone Workers representing 10,500 employees of the Southern New England Telephone Company are members of the Alliance. Wage increases was number one on the list of items to be considered. Along with this, Alliance delegates indicated that a cost-of-living make-up increase will be necessary. Improved pensions, improved vacations, shorter work week, establishment of company paid dental, optical, and prescription plans were other items that will get top priority.

Hospital Workers Authorize Strike

by the Concerned Hospital Workers

On Monday, June 25, by a unanimous vote, the Dietary Workers of Yale New Haven Hospital authorized their negotiating commtitee to call a strike. They took this action after two and one half months of unsuccessful negotiations with the Hospital Administration.

In the **Hospital Workers' Newsletter**, some Dietary workers expressed it this way:

Last October, the majority of Dietary workers signed cards asking for union representation. We wanted a union because we were tired of having all of our wages, benefits and working conditions set by the boss at his pleasure. We wanted a voice in deciding these things for ourselves. We wanted a union contract which would guarantee us the wages, working conditions and benefits we need and deserve. That was last October.

Now it is already June. We have tried to be patient. We sat through Labor Board Hearings. We went to the Hospital's propaganda sessions and we listened to the bosses' sweet talk. We read through mountains of mail from Mr. Womer.

On election day, March 1, we let everyone know that we had not changed our minds one bit. We still wanted a union and we wanted a union contract. We waited a month and a half for negotiations to begin. Now it is June and they still are going on. And on and on and on ... We have been patient beyond endurance. Now our patience is at an end.

In the next week, the Negotiating Committee will be planning actions to convince the Hospital of the union's seriousness. The Concerned Hospital Workers emphasize that none of the workers want a strike – but that if the Hospital Administration want one, they'll get it. The issues have been narrowed down to wages and benefits. Yale-New Haven Hospital has the money. Let them give some of it to the workers.

Big Week For Big Brothers

Dave Spinner

During the week of June 17 to June 23, the Big Brothers of New Haven held a recruiting week. Their hope was to get men to volunteer as Big Brothers for fatherless boys like Andre Benefield who is pictured on the left. Recruiter Richard Armstead is on the right.

News From The Front, UFW In Action

Lufkin Picketed

Shortly before Dan Lufkin's resignation as State Commissioner of the Dept. of Environmental Protection, supporters of the United Farm Workers Union AFL-CIO and members of the Women's movement picketed his office in Hartford. Spokesmen for the protestors charged that Lufkin refused to meet with a delegation to discuss his holdings in Franzia BrothersWinery, which refuses to hire women.

Until recently the California company hired both men and women under the provisions of a United Farm Workers Union contract, which prohibits discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, age or sex. The contract expired on April 30 and has not been renewed. Company president, Joseph Franzia Sr., has said that he objects to the kind of workers provided by the union hiring hall, and believes that women need to be protected from this type of work.

Martha Martinez, a co-ordinator of the lettuce and grape boycotts, said that "We want Mr. Lufkin to exercise his authority to ensure that Franzia Brothers renews its contract before these women are 'protected' right out of their means of support." Lufkin has made many contradictory statements regarding his shares in the Franzia Bros. Winery. He has at times denied owning these, and at other times admitted to the holdings but pleaded innocence on company policy. He dismisses his critics by saying, "I fail to see how the management of a California winery can influence the environment in Connecticut."

Finast Victory for Farm Workers

On Saturday, May 19, First National Stores were picketed all over the East in support of the United Farm Workers Union AFL-CIO and the lettuce boycott. The Finast store at Grand and Ferry in New Haven was picketed by a single picket, who succeeded in 4 hours of lonely work, in turning away from 60 to 80 shoppers. On the following Wednesday at a high level management meeting First National declared that the chain would sell only UFW lettuce and grapes--A notable victory!

In another development, Safeway, the country's second largest chain, ran a full page ad earlier this month, in over 300 papers calling for supervised elections amongst the workers themselves. This unprecedented move follows nearly five years of silence, and, while not a committment, shows that the chain is certainly feeling the pressure of the boycott.

Within the next few months there will be more UFW staffers in Connecticut to help with the boycott. If you can help by providing housing please call 288-4905 or in Hartford 233-7234.

Women & Power

The Greater New Haven, the Connecticut and the East Shore Women's Political Caucuses recently held a *very successful conference on the issue of Women and Power. The call sent out for June 9th to "examine our feelings, explore our possibilities, expand our power" met with the overwhelming response of 400 women who spent a Saturday at the conference.*

Members of the Organizing Committee of the Conference cite it as a "first" in Connecticut because "it brought together such a wide range of female talent, ages, socio-economic levels, political affiliations and racial and ethinc mix to talk about a subject too long absent from the agendas of women's organizations" – the capacity, the potential women have for getting involved in politics which have for too long been dominated and misguided by men.

Reflecting the wide spectrum of participants in the Conference were representatives of community groups, unions and other labor groups, civil and human rights groups, lobbying and legislative bodies, and the business world. In other words, women from all walks of life met together because they have the common interest of their own more active participation in politics.

Lee Novick, chairwoman of the Connecticut Women's Political Caucus began the Conference applauding the efforts of the fighters of women's rights in the past and stressing our responsibility to continue the work they've begun. She was followed by the Conference's keynote speaker, Audrey Beck, Assistant Minority Leader in the State's House of Representatives, who spoke on women in government.

Discussions on electioneering and campaigning, using the court system, social protest, Black and Spanish-speaking women, women and labor unions, women and business and lobbying and legislation followed in workshops.

The Organizing Committee looks back proudly to the success of the Conference and forward to more such gatherings and the increased political activity of women. For more information please contact the Greater New Haven Women's Political Caucus, P.O. Box 5552, Mt. Carmel, Ct.

Editorial

Nixon Reruns Old Show

President Nixon certainly lives in a TV world. Since it's summer and the TV stations are showing reruns, he decided to go on TV and give a re-run of an old economic message. But like an old re-run it lost all its glamour and punch the second time around.

The original wage-price freeze in 1971 (Phase 1) really raised hopes. A lot of people gave Nixon the benefit of the doubt and figured after 90 days he would come up with a plan to stop price rises and get unemployed people back to work. But after a year and a half of Nixon's Phase II and III, with zooming prices, lousy wage increases and jobs still hard to get, nobody's going to buy a 60-day retail price freeze as any kind of a solution.

The plain truth is that Nixon is never going to come across with a plan that will stop inflation and allow workers to get reasonable raises. The President evidently has only one economic idea: let corporate profits grow and somehow the economy will get on its feet again. It is just a variation of the old "What's good for business is good for everybody" argument.

And it is absolute bunk. Because high profits are a big *cause* of our problems—they can never be the solution. Nixon's measures have been effective in keeping wage increases small. But profits have been allowed to grow to undreamed of heights.

Where is all this corporate prosperity coming from? Are executives putting in more hours? Are foreigners using their dollar surplus to buy American goods? Of course, the answer to both these questions is No.

High profits are coming from higher and higher prices. And no plan to stop inflation will work if it doesn't include a way to force corporations to accept lower profits. But of course a man like Nixon will never learn this easy lesson. What we can expect from him is just an endless succession of TV re-runs, stop-gap freezes and unenforced controls, and phase upon phase of hopeful rhetoric.

And until we force the politicians to do something about runaway profits or get new politicians to represent working peoples' interests, living conditions will get worse.

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MODERN TIMES is published by the American Independent Movement (AIM) as its political organ. Work on MODERN TIMES is done by volunteers, both members and non-members of AIM. The political views of AIM are given in the editorial. We encourage contributions of the New Haven community in the form of articles and letters.

MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get this kind of news from profit-making commercial papers. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working women and men are told by them instead of their bosses. There is no place else where hunger, bad housing and education, lack of health care and police harassment that people live with is told by them.

We live in the richest country in the world. But only a few people get to use most of the wealth for themselves. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. There would be no need to strike for a few more crumbs. waste our resources and labor on rockets and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need, not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement has been working since 1966 to get people together against the rich powerful few who run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, child care centers, recreation areas, decent health care and decent jobs.

STAFF: David Adams, Gary Benenson, Matt Borenstein, Ed Breuler, Danny Cahn, Ellen Comisso, Vittorio Comisso, Lillian Dimow, Joelle Dominski, Art Fleischner, Paul Gill, Sam Goodwin, Stanley Heller, Liz Henderson, Nick Heyer, Eileen Hoffman, Lynne Karsten, Karl Lechow, Alice Mick, Ray Milici, Patti Miller, Laurie Nussdorfer, Renee Poirier, Peter O'Connell, Naomi Resnick, Ruth Resnick, Pat Sandacata, Bob Sherry, Dave Spinner, Henry Tamarin, Sergio Verillo, Rick Wolff, Karen Wolff

"O.K., Mr. Press Secretary, give me some answers!"

"If I knew about the Watergate Caper, what am I doing in the White House?"

"... And if I didn't know anything about the affair..."

"... What am I doing in the White House?"

Remember July 4th

It is at all times necessary, and more particularly so during the progress of a revolution and until right ideas confirm themselves by habit, that we frequently refresh our patriotism by reference to first principles.

Thomas Paine

Write On

To the Editors:

Are Nixon and his staff responsible for Watergate? Obviously. Every day the plot unfolds a little more, exposing higher and higher levels of the Nixon hierarchy.

President Nixon has been trying to portray himself as "above it all"--somewhat like the Master Criminal ("I never touch a gun") in a detective thriller. But the more he protests his innocence, the nearer the finger of guilt moves towards him.

On the other hand, all of the schemes and plots described for convenience as "Watergate" are clearly bigger than a handful of individuals. Is it enough to say that Haldeman, Ehrlichman, Magruder, Dean, Mitchell and even Nixon were responsible?

Just like the rest of us, these men are part of a society which expects certain things of them and to which they respond in certain ways. The key questions to ask about Watergate are:

I) What did Nixon & Company intend to do?

2) In whose interest did they do it?

3) Why did they do it now?

What Intentions?

First, what did Nixon and his people intend to do? Much more, obviously, than simply to bug the Democratic headquarters at Watergate. More, even, than to win the election by fair means and foul.

The Nixon Administration wanted radical changes made in the structure of American Government. They were unhappy with the 200-year-old system of checks and balances, which is supposed to divide the power among the three branches of government.

Nixon & Co. wanted to take power away from the judiciary and Congress and give it to the executive, themselves. Even within the executive branch, however, they took power away from the cabinet and concentrated it in the White House. In their most dramatic move, they organized their own brand of secret police and agents provocateurs, answerable to no one, not even Congress. Coupled with all of these measures, they made attacks on the press, the very institution which was to expose them. Fortunately, most of these schemes backfired. The Congress, the Courts and the press are now stronger than ever.

Agent of the Rich

It's no secret whose interests Nixon is serving. He is an agent of the rich and powerful banks and corporations who put him up there in the first place. What may not be so obvious, however, is how well Nixon has served his wealthy backers these past few years.

While the rest of us have been reeling from the double barrels of unemployment and inflation, the corporations have been enjoying record-high profits. January-

[see Watergate, page 6]

Dear Modern Times,

Good ideas travel in strange ways. On my way to the corner market this morning I happened to glance at a dirty paper in the gutter. I noticed something about "Union Shop" and "the Concerned Hospital Workers Newsletter." I work at a hospital here in Boston, so I picked up this paper and discovered that it was pages three through six of **Modern Times** which I've never heard of before. I liked what I read, so I'm enclosing a quarter for a whole issue. I'd subscribe but I don't have enough information – like how much?

Also, I'm enclosing two copies of **Transfusion**, a hospital workers newsletter from Boston, which I helped to put together. One copy is for you and one is for the people at Yale-New Haven Hospital who are in the Concerned Hospital Workers group. This is so they will know what is going on in hospitals in Boston.

Thanks.

Sincerely,

Bobby Noble
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Money Talks

Health Insurance Programs Sickly

by Laurie Nussdorfer

"The insurance companies are not in the business of selling health insurance. What they sell is sickness insurance. They do everything possible *not* to sell their sickness insurance to people who are sick, have been sick, or will become sick. Those who *are* covered find that their insurance pays only a fraction of their health care expenses and the rest comes out of their pocket." So writes Bert Seidman, director of Social Security of the AFL-CIO.

Furthermore, Insurance companies – which never try to put pressure on doctors to limit unnecessary operations and who prefer to pay bills without question– are highly wasteful of the health care dollar. Nearly 20 cents of every such dollar never bought a penny of health care, but instead went for administrative costs, advertising, executive salaries, and expense accounts.

The need for a national health insurance program is being increasingly recognized. Yet every proposed system for national health insurance except one would turn over the financing of America's health care to these same private insurance companies. The one exception is National Health Security – the Kennedy-Griffiths bill. It is also the only program with built-in cost and "quality" controls. For these reasons it is supported by the AFL-CIO.

Needs for Cost Controls

The average cost of a single day in the hospital in 1972 was double what it was six years ago. In recent months hospital costs – despite price limitation guidelines of 2.5 percent – have risen over 10 percent. Last year each person paid an average of $394 for health care, according to the Social Security Administration. This will increase to a projected $475 per person next year.

The position of the AFL-CIO, supporting National Health Security, states, "No national health plan is going to be able to roll back medical costs to what they were a decade ago, but an effectively administered plan . . . can keep cost increases to a minimum by trimming the fat and applying the savings to purchasing health care for all Americans." In their opinion, the nation's health care system ought to be financed on a national basis with a single standard of comprehensive benefits covering each citizen.

National Health Security would cover all hospital and doctor fees, and children's routine dental bills. Not covered would be long-term mental health care, drugs, some nursing home care, construction of facilities, and research. National Health Security would:

1. Set limits on fees and require approval of hospital budgets.
2. Eliminate unnecessary surgery. (Only specialists on referral from family doctors would be permitted to perform operations – which could save $4.5 billion a year in unnecessary costs.)
3. Create alternative health-care plans to make maximum use of out-patient clinics (rather than hospitalizing people for tests.)
4. Increase the supply of health care personnel.
5. Create incentives for the establishment of more prepaid group practice plans (which use half as much surgery and hospitalization.) The fact that doctors in such plans can treat twice as many patients as solo practicioners could result in a saving of $3.6 billion annually.
6. Give consumers a voice in deciding how the health care system will work.
7. Take the profit out of handling bill-paying (now raked in by the insurance companies).

The Nixon administration has tried to use public concern about taxes and government spending as a weapon to attack the National Health Security plan–claiming that it would require major increases in the income tax to finance. Let us compare estimates, however.

Compare the Figures

Under the Administration health insurance proposal a family would have to pay a deductible of $100 per person (up to $300 per family) for medical care. The first two days of hospital charges and 25 percent of the bill for each additional day in the hospital would also have to come out of the family's pocket. Including their insurance premiums, a family could pay almost $700 without receiving any benefits from their insurance.

The Health Security tax paid by individuals would be 1 percent of the first $15,000 earned. Because Health Security would make a separate health program for the elderly unnecessary, the Medicare tax would be abolished. For 1973 the Medicare tax paid by individuals is 1 percent of the first $10,800 in wages, increasing to 1 percent of the first $12,000 in 1974 – or $120 a year. The $150 a year which the head of a household would pay in *Health Security* taxes would be all that is necessary to provide health care for the family – and *now* not when the wage-earner is 65.

Currently Medicare, Medicaid, and other federal and state health programs cost $32.2 billion. State and local governments spend another $3.5 billion in tax revenue to buy private health insurance for public employees. $33 billion is spent to purchase private health insurance by individuals. The total – all paid for by individuals either through taxes or premiums – is $68.7 billion. (And out-of-pocket expenses are an additional $35 billion.)

The Administration's proposal would cost $68.2 billion and leave government employees, unemployed, and seasonal workers uncovered. The all-inclusive National Health Security plan would cost $63.4 billion – less than 70% of the nation's current total for personal health care.

Financing Health Security

In addition to the 1 percent tax on earnings paid by workers, employers would pay a tax of 3.5 percent of payroll for National Health Security. The total from these sources would provide half the money necessary to run the program. The other half would come from general federal revenues. The Administration implies that this money could only be raised by increasing income tax on individuals – but closing income tax loopholes would be another alternative.

Conclusion

In fact, all national health insurance proposals would cost approximately the same. Whether the government pays the tab directly or whether the private insurance industry continues its middleman role, the money comes out of the pockets of individuals, either as taxes or premiums. The advantage of the National Health Security bill is its provisions for some supervision of costs and "quality". It leaves unresolved many health-care needs: for clinics in every neighborhood, for participation in planning and decision-making by patients as well as bureaucrats and doctors, for health education programs, for control of drug pricing. What National Health Security *does* offer is a long over-due *rational* system for paying for medical care.

The information for this article was supplied by the **American Federationist,** *May, 1973.*

World Affairs

British 'Bomb' In Belfast

by Michael Chinoy

The author has made several trips to Northern Ireland. The following is extracted from four recent articles in the Yale Daily News.

The British Army was brought to Northern Ireland in 1969 to protect the Catholic ghettoes from attacks by the Protestants after the local police (who were almost all Protestants) proved unwilling and incapable of doing so. The Army quickly took over the role of the police, which in Northern Ireland's outdated political structure meant supporting the sectarian and discriminatory policies upon which this peculiar statelet had been based since 1921.

This, in turn, provoked the rise of the I.R.A., the internment of Catholics on a massive scale, and the continuing violence that has led to the present situation.

Repression Leads to Recruitment

Today, in the Catholic ghettoes, hatred of the British Army is universal.

The result of this army activity has been to drive many people into the arms of the I.R.A. Many more who are inactive remain sympathetic, hiding arms, opening their door to men on the run, and supporting the active guerilla war against the British. The spread of guerilla warfare caused the British government in 1972 to dissolve the parliament of Northern Ireland.

The area was then governed directly by a special administrator, Sir William Whitelaw while a "White Paper" outlining the goals of the British government was drawn up.

White Paper or White Wash

The White Paper was issued early this year and outline six goals:

To maintain Ulster's (North Ireland) connection with England "as long as that is the wish of the majority of its people."

To "defeat terrorism and end violence."

To maintain London's control over security powers.

To pass a "charter of human rights" to lessen discrimination against Catholics.

To create a new Northern Ireland assembly elected by proportional representation to insure wider minority participation.

To make limited overtures to the Republic of Ireland about cooperation with the North, dependent upon the Republic's recognition of Ulster's present status in the United Kingdom.

These proposals are supposedly "designed to benefit the law abiding majority in both communities." On the surface, they do appear reasonable. A more detailed examination of their contents, however, and an awareness of conditions in Belfast makes one skeptical.

For the nationalist population of Northern Ireland, the argument that majority rule must be respected has always seemed empty. The Protestants were, and are, a minority on the island of Ireland. The Northern state containing only six counties, out of the 32 in all Ireland, created an artificial Protestant majority--allowing the Protestants and the wealthy industrialists who dominated the economy to maintain their power.

The Catholics have always resented being the minority in Ulster, because in the larger Irish context they are the majority. Thus, the first major flaw of the White Paper is that it fails to take into account any of these facts. It holds the traditional fallacy that the Protestant majority in the North should have a veto power over the future status of Ulster.

[see 'Whitepaper', page 7]

Yup, Another March In Washington!

Joe Taylor

A march demanding the end to the bombing of Cambodia and the Impeachment of Nixon was held on June 16 in Washington D.C. Notables such as Arthur Kinoy spoke at the rally on such topics as 'Watergate' and the fight to stop cutbacks.

Complaints Grow at Church St. South

by Andy Esposito
Modern Times Staff

Church Street South (CSS), although fairly new, is a slum in the making. Its walkways are littered with broken glass and other debris. Its trash containers overflow, spilling rubble onto the ground. Its broken banisters are left in a state of disrepair for month after month. And the conditions are growing worse, not better.

The low to moderate income development was sponsored by Jaycee Housing Corporation and eventually is to be converted into a co-op. In the interim, Jaycee Housing turned management of the development over to Ripps Realty. The concept, at first, appeared sound. The management style of Larry Johnson, Ripps' representative, however, leaves a great deal to be desired.

Johnson is the latest in a series of unresponsive superintendents. He fails to return phone calls and, in general, makes himself unavailable to CSS residents. He handles complaints in, what residents feel is, an abusive manner. To be treated in such a manner is frustrating and has caused a number of people to begin looking elswhere for living quarters.

Broken glass and concrete, but no grass at Church Street South.

Saturation Level

One individual who has reached this satuaration level of frustration is Juanita Barber. Her problems began immediately upon taking up residence in CSS in Febraury, 1972.

Shortly after Barber moved in, the roller, on which the closet door glides in her son's room, came off. She called the super, requesting it be fixed. To this date the roller is still unrepaired. At the same time, the garbage disposal broke down. *Again, no satisfaction was obtained from the superintendent. The disposal still doesn't function properly.*

The ineptness of the maintenance staff would be comical if it were not for its adverse emotional and economic effects upon the residents. A case in point is an episode which began when the damaged lock on Barber's apartment door was changed; the superintendent of course kept an extra key. However, when an extermination team made its quarterly visit they left a note saying they could not enter the apartment because they didn't have a key. The superintendent was apparently unable to provide them with one. When Barber called the super to complain, he told her it was her fault because she had changed her lock. After repeated attempts to get the superintendent to perform his job, a frustrated Juanita Barber took time off from work, losing income, and saw to it that the task was properly completed.

Dangerous Situation

Failure to properly maintain the building has even endangered the safety of Juanita Barber. After the lock on the *screen door, leading into the kitchen from the terrace, broke it was promptly* reported. Once again, a feeble excuse was given for not immediately repairing the lock. The result was that one evening a noise was heard in the kitchen. Upon investigating the noise, Barber found a young boy entering the kitchen through the screen door. When she accompanied the boy to her apartment door, she found the youngster's brother waiting to be let in. Fortunately, she was able to scare them off. Had they been men instead of boys, she certainly would have been in danger. Neglect of this type, which can lead to physical harm, is inexcusable.

Common Sense Solutions

There are many problems at CSS, some of them are very complex and have no simple solution. Yet the problems described by Juanita Barber and those that can be found through inspection of the CSS facility lend themselves, in large part, to common sense solutions.

First, replace the present super with one who cares about what happens to CSS and its residents.

Second, open the management office at night when the residents are home.

Third, place the trash bins close to the walkways so people can deposit galss bottles and other debris in them. Also, empty the large trash containers more frequently, thereby, preventing them from overflowing.

Conditions at CSS can be improved, and the slide toward slumhood arrested. But the management of Ripps must meet the residents half way, something they haven't been willing to do.

Watergate

[continued from page 4]

through-March corporate profits after taxes surged from $47 billion in 1971 and $49 billion in 1972 to an all-time high $62 billion in 1973.

The economic statistics proved a clue as to why Watergate happened at this time. As long as profits are to continue rising, there will be no solution in sight for the problems of unemployment, inflation and the sinking value of the dollar.

The Government is faced with a dilemma. Can it continue to guarantee soaring profits while the poor and the not-so-poor get poorer? What if people should realize what's happening?

In Nixon's view, the Vietnam War protests were bad enough. What if the American people would get really angry over inflation and unemployment? This is just the possibility Nixon is most afraid of. It is the main reason why he wanted secret police, a muzzle on the press and more power over Congress and the courts.

Near 'Success'

Nixon & Co. very nearly succeeded. Had it not been for a handful of judges, newspaper reporters and congressmen, America would now be well on the way to one-man-rule. The big question is this: What will stop the Nixons and Mitchells of the future? Will the fate of even our limited democracy be once again in the hands of a few judges and reporters?

Our only hope is to build an independent political movement, representative of broad groups of people and not beholden to big business. The judges, the newspapers, and the Democratic party may or may not be willing to fight for democracy next time. We have to do it ourselves.

Gary Benenson
New Haven

Deadend St.?

[continued from page 1]

of leaving it to those most active in street affairs. Debates and strategy sessions were held.

'Little to be Done'

What has come out of all this? In a discussion with John Cavallero, head of the New Haven Traffic and Parking Authority, and with Sargeant O'Brien of the Police Department, people were told that very little could actually be done to permanently control speeders, and nothing at all to lessen traffic volume.

Since it seemed apparant that only an extraordinary solution could really deal with the problem effectively, the members of PAWS decided to push to make the street a dead-end by closing off Bradley between Williams and Lyon. This would allow local access and city service vehicles onto the street with enough room to turn around, but would reduce traffic volume to a safe level and would leave the speeders with nowhere to go.

Right now, discussion on the issue continues on William Street. Next, we will circulate a petition, and our decision will be presented to the Traffic and Parking Authority and the Traffic Commission. While discussion of the issue continues, an overwhelming majority of people favor the dead-end idea.

Although it will not be easy to get such an unusual solution approved by a car-oriented city administration, the people of William Street are determined to fight for what they need. We are building a street association which bases its strength on encouraging people to rely on our own group strength to achieve our ends.

Tenants Rights Held Over

Nick Heyer

The building at 251 Dixwell Avenue, although it had been condemned by the city on April 12, was still occupied on Wednesday, june 20, when it s owner, the infamous Morris Sacks, shut the water off on his tenants. The tenants were then ordered to leave, but where were they to go? The Hill and Newhallville Neighborhood Corporations came to their aid and set them up in hotels until they could find permanent, decent living quarters.

New Supreme Court Ruling On Pornography

by John Flannelly
Modern Times Staff

A distinction has to be made between a defense of pornography, on the one hand, and a defense of the inviolable rights of freedom of speech, on the other. The recent Supreme Court decision blurs this distinction.

The majority opinion held in a 5-4 decision, with Justice White joining the four Nixon appointees, that states and municipalities have an inherent right to adjudge books, magazines, movies, plays, etc. obscene, if such a judgment is based upon an application of community moral standards. The court suggested that communities employ the criterion of whether something has "serious" literary, artistic, social or political content. The proper means of arriving at an understanding of what is serious, it further suggested, are to be sought in an examination of the mores, tastes, habits, and opinions of the "average person."

Decency or Tyranny of the Majority?

The implications of this decision are down-right frightening. The assumption that America is made up of small, distinctive communities, differing one from the other in cultural mores, is fallacious. If anything, the country is witnessing the nationalization of cultural mores, and the disappearance of local community folk habits. As equally fallacious is the assumption that there is an "average person" who somehow, through some mysterious process of universal awareness, embodies the essence of a common morality. All of this is compounded by the fact that no adequate *definition of obscenity has ever been* formulated. So who is to say what is obscene? The local clergyman, the local lawyer, the local grocer, who? Given the existence of vague guidelines, as those recommended by the court, it is not difficult to imagine the emergence of self-righteous guardians of a mythical community standard banning all kinds of things on the grounds of offensive content.

Pornography as Commerce

There is little to argue with in the contention that pornography as an industry is geared to the open exploitation of sex, founded in the degradation of the human spirit, and uses as its fundamental mode of expression the celebration of the body as a thing. But if the industry is to be regulated, it ought to be regulated as commerce, the aim ought to be a curtailment of its promotional range of influence, which is quite different from regulating it from the point of view of censorship.

A Contradiction in Terms

The First Amendment protects the right of a free people to think for themselves. The case of pornography in this context has very little to do with such protection. For the business success of pornography reflects nothing more than another aspect of the establishment ethic of commercialism. Keeping this in mind, one gets the feeling that the upholders of the national morality, those fine men of middle-class virtue, are more afraid of themselves than of anything else, since there is no denying at this point that pornography in America has become a thorough-going middle-class affair, check out your neighborhood theatre for confirmation, surely more a matter of embarrassment for those in control of the governmental machinery of this country than a cause for righteousness.

New Cafe Tries Snow Job

Dave Spinner

The Snow Chicken Cafe: not Mom's idea of finger-lickin' good.

by Mike Avery

The Snow Chicken Cafe is New Haven's newest and Connecticut's largest discotheque for single people on the make. People who want to go out, have a few drinks, dance and find somebody to go home with, now have a classy new fantasyland *in this remodeled warehouse on Hamilton Street off I-95.*

As you enter the Snow Chicken you are greeted by three or four young men, carefully dressed in white turtlenecks and blazers with a studied air of casual chic. Behind them stands the Snow Chicken herself, a massive accoustical plaster figure monopolizing the foyer. Enormous pink breasts, tipped with tassled pasties, point the way to the dance floor.

The main room has a bar down one wall and a dance floor in the center. The place is very large with booths around the outside and two rows of tables ringing the dance floor.

There is no band and the music is supplied, true disco style, from records spun by disc jockeys on a local FM station. It is carried at a deafening volume to the dance floor by 123 speakers pointed into the sunken pit in the middle of the room, and never stops.

Caterer of Sexual Fantasies

The Cafe is purposefully designed to create sexual fantasies and assist customers in acting upon them. Everyone is seated by a floorman when they arrive, and all single women are seated between the bar and the dance floor to make them easy to spot. The owner, Bill Hirsch, explains, unconscious of the revealing double meaning, that this allows the men standing at the bar "to look down at the women" seated in front of them.

The people who go to the Snow Chicken range in age for the most part from 25 to 40. They come from varying backgrounds and a wide variety of jobs, but there are very few black people among the Snow Chicken's customers. What almost all of them have in common is that they are lonely and are hoping to meet somebody to go home with. According to Hirsch, many of them do.

Emphasis on Appearances

Hirsch desires to create a classy appearance for his night club, what he calls a "New York" or "Las Vegas" look. There is a dress code: no sandals, t-shirts, tank tops and jeans are allowed. Men have to wear jackets in the winter and at least shirts with collars in the summer. Hirsch wants to discourage what he calls "bums, creeps and punks" from even coming in. He has successfully maintained his policy and all his customers are in his terms well groomed and well dressed. There are few long haired men, and no one who looks like a "hippie."

The Pierre Cardin chairs are white, as are the tables, the ceiling and the artificial cut-out trees which line the outside wall of booths. Only the rug is a deep red. All the waitresses are dressed in white deep V-neck halter-like tops and pink pants. Their summer outfits will be long white dresses, slit up the center, bare-backed with "as much flesh showing in the front as the law allows," according to Mr. Hirsch. In fact, if the law allowed it, he would have topless waitresses.

The Cafe seems to suggest that the exploitation of sex is perfectly alright as long as people are well-dressed and well-mannered. The manipulation of the waitresses to provide a titillating sexual environment for scoring and the creation of a fantastical arena for cruising are considered respectable. It is a contradictory and distorted set of values, but it springs from what many people seem to want. They stand in line to get into the Snow Chicken, and 1400 to 1500 people attend each weekend night. Mr. Hirsch is essentially a businessman, and he is selling the public what they clearly are more than eager to pay for.

Profiting on Loneliness

If you ask Hirsch what this means, his answer is that it is simply part of life. If everyone were one big happy family, he points out, no one would go to night clubs, they would be at home making love. But the Snow Chicken is a place which ultimately represents some profoundly disquieting things about our society. People go there because they are lonely, and on the most basic level they feel unloved and are seeking love. The Cafe's response to this, however, is degrading and manipulative for women and empty and hollow for men. Probably at best for the people who do go home together, physical stimulation momentarily relieves the pain of much deeper emotional longings. For those who go home alone, the depression of their lives is worsened by the fact that even their fantasies reject them.

'White Paper' Is A Whitewash

[continued from page 5]

Terrorism the Target

As for the second goal defeating terrorism, what the British government sees as terrorism many other people see as a legitimate guerilla war against a colonial power.

Most Catholics in Ulster support the idea of a United Ireland, and all hold an instinctive sympathy for those actively opposed to British controls. In addition, the methods that England proposes to use to defeat "terrorism" are disapproved of by most Catholics, and many Protestants as well.

These methods include: Trying suspected terrorists before a judge alone, rather than before a judge and jury; shifting the burden of proof from the prosecution to the defense; refusing to grant bail to suspected terrorists; accepting all confessions not explicitly "obtained by torture," and continuing the practice of detaining "suspected terrorists" without trial or charge. A scandal has already developed in the English press over the nature of the special courts used to make decisions on this matter.

Policemen with masks over their heads are allowed to give unsubstantiated testimony which then becomes the legal basis for continuing to hold a subject. Since there is overwhelming evidence of the discriminatory behavior of the British Army, these measures to "protect" Ulster's citizens do not inspire confidence among the Catholic population of Northern Ireland.

Referendum Proves Useless

An 'advisory referendum' concerning Ulster's continued connection with England was totally boycotted by Catholics. The day of the referendum was also a day of many IRA bombings – the most spectacular of which resulted in massive destruction in the heart of London itself. The Catholics did turn out, however, for the election of relatively powerless local councils. Furthermore, limited talks with officials of the Republic of Ireland have been inconclusive. The only goal of the White Paper that appears to have been achieved so far is London's continued control of 'Security' powers.

Polarization Runs Deep

The polarization of Protestants, Catholics and the Army is the most overwhelming fact one notices in Belfast. Yet although much of the tension is expressed in sectarian terms, this is not a religious war.

In fact, it is the bad housing, unemployment, competition for jobs, poor education and a repressive political situation that has led to the violence and increased the hostility between the Protestants, who have very little, and the poor Catholics who have nothing.

The Protestants believe that to maintain their precarious position, Northern Ireland must remain British. The Catholics who have been treated as a subversive population by the Army, believe that their position would vastly improve in a united Ireland. And the British, who would like to maintain their economic hold over all of Ireland, are looking for compromises to keep Ulster's majority happy and its minority pacified.

They will not succeed.

On The Job Teaching And Learning at HSC

by Laurie Nussdorfer
Modern Times Staff

An interview with Ed Lichtenstein

I teach English at the High School in the Community. I've been there since it started. I began teaching five years ago at Hillhouse.

I refuse to work a second job during the year. It's a choice. I'm the only one at HSC who is married and has a single income. Obviously what I earn on a teacher's salary is not enough to support a wife and two kids in any kind of style, even though I'm on a relatively good step in the pay scale - a master's degree with five years' experience.

I like to take my pay on a 10 month basis. You take home more then, but you don't get any checks for 2 months. That puts me in a financial bind. This summer I'm working at Paradise Country Club teaching swimming. I started working there on weekends after Memorial Day and, when school ends, I'll work five days a week from noon to eight.

Double Summer Jobs

Last summer I worked at HSC, taught swimming in the pool at our apartment building, and did a little consulting work. One other summer that I worked at HSC, I started teaching horseback riding lessons at a riding stable. Actually they began on weekends during the school year. But I was an early victim of the inflation and got laid off, so I got a job driving a Good Humor truck two days a week.

You can make it through on this salary, but it's not great money these days. There are too many other teachers' contracts around that are better in terms of pay. Hartford and the school systems in Fairfield county have a better pay scale. But higher teacher salaries put a crunch on the taxpayers, there's no question about that.

What turned me into an activist in the strike wasn't salary - although I think that's a legitimate issue. It was the way negotiations were being conducted on the part of the Board. There were too many instances of bad faith and at some point you've got to stop being pushed. In New Haven you wind up having to fight to keep what you've got – even in terms of wages. You fight a defensive battle and you hardly ever have a chance to assume the offensive.

It's good that the union is there to protect teachers' rights as workers. At the same time, because you're an education union, you are dealing with more than just the welfare of workers. The union has got to be able to *find* the time to make itself felt as an educational force – and that's really tough given all the jobs that union leadership has to do.

Need for New Programs

The educational alternatives that New Haven has really only serve a small number of students. Somehow you've got to start creating programs that match the number of students you've got –21,000 kids. The difference in the three high schools and school populations in New Haven has got to be recognized. Kids from Westville and the Hill and Fair Haven don't all need the same things.

It's a city-accepted truism almost – but kids come in with different skills and different capabilities. And white parents and black parents want different things from the schools. White parents are saying, "I want my kids to go to college." And a place like HSC appeals to them because it lets kids do their own thing and they have been taught that.

Black parents are saying, "I want my kids to be able to read, write, spell" – the very traditional demands. Both are aspiring to the same thing, but their ways of getting there are very different and their needs are different. At HSC you see this more because people are forced to be a little bit closer.

HSC *is* artificial. You've got a self-selected student body; you're working off special funds; you've got a student body that helps select the teaching staff. In a lot of ways the deck is stacked in favor of an HSC. You do a lot of things in any school with 1500 kids (like Hillhouse) to preserve order. That isn't one of our concerns. We're small enought that order kind of comes naturally. Just that difference – of not having to worry about order – lets you do a lot of other things.

There's no way the whole school system could be – nor should it be – like HSC. You've got to have alternatives, for noother reason than because people are coming from different places on their way to getting to the same place.

Future in Education

I see myself staying in education – although not full-time teaching. I like to write and I like to deal with literature.

Nick Heyer

Looking through a window at Ed Lichtenstien, a teacher at New Haven's High School in the Community.

I like the contact with kids. I can't imagine my future putting myself in a career where I wouldn't have contact with kids. You can't be in education and not deal with kids because then you wind up creating programs for people you don't know anything about.

Eventually, a teacher has to do something different. Even if you just change jobs within the system – say move from straight teaching to a semi-administrative post or become a coach. When you teach it's like a well. Every day you draw a little bit out – to plan your lessons and create interesting situations. If you don't have something new to bring, you begin repeating lesson plans, using the same materials over and over. If you're really good you want to be able to keep replanishing the well.

For the first time in four or five summers, I'm not going to have HSC to worry about. I'm going to be outside for the first time in ages. I'll have two or three different things going for me. It's a change. I don't know whether it's enough to refresh the well, but it is a change.

Playgrounds In Action

The playgrounds of New Haven are alive and well, and will serve this summer as the focus for the city's recreation program for youth. The program gets underway on July 2nd and is scheduled to run through August 22nd.

Plans also call for the operation of ten daycamps serving the following neighborhoods: West Rock, Newhallville, Fair Haven, Hill, Dwight, Dixwell, Wooster Square, Westville and East Shore.

The following playgrounds will have daily supervised activities from 9:30 a.m. to Noon and from 1:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Baldwin School, Barnard School, Beecher School, Betsy Ross School, Katherine Brennan School, Church Street South, Clinton Avenue School, Conte School, Davenport, East Rock Park (College Woods), Eastern Circle, Edgewood Park, Edgewood School East, Edwards School, Fair Haven, Farnum Courts, Helene Grant School, Ivy Street School, Benjamin Jepson School, Kimberly Avenue Field, Lincoln-Bassett School, Nathan Hale School, Roger Sherman School, Troup School, Truman School, West Hills School, Woodward School.

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